



Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

Recommendation to the Commission

Party Submitting Recommendation: CISC - Suicide Prevention Gap Analysis Sub-Committee

Date of Submission: 12/10/2020

Type of Action Requested:

Legislation Administrative Rule or Policy Resolution of Support or Endorsement Professional/skills development

Other: _____

Which of the Commission's Strategic Priorities does this Recommendation help advance (check all that apply):

Child Health and Safety Juvenile Justice and Cross-system Youth
 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Educational Outcomes

Summary of Recommendation:

This recommendation requests that the Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana advocate and support the creation of a coordinated crisis response network for the state of Indiana, including a sufficient infrastructure for statewide crisis call centers, centrally deployed 24/7 mobile crisis teams, and 24-hour crisis receiving and stabilization programs.

Background of Recommendation:

What is the need or problem, and how does it impact disparate populations?

What data, research or other information did the recommender consult to formulate this proposal?

- Mental Health America Screening results database
- The CDC lost revenue calculator was utilized to compare the cost to the state with the amount of suicide deaths, and emergency department visits for suicide ideation and suicide attempts.
- A case study of Phoenix, Arizona mobile crisis response by the University of Madison, Wisconsin showed that their mobile crisis teams reduced state inpatient costs by \$260 million, saved hospital emergency departments \$37 million in avoidable costs/losses.
- Other information gleaned from the Crisis Now initiative/National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention

What disproportionality did the data reveal?

Hoosiers living in socially and/or economically disadvantaged, or underrepresented communities have less access to mental health care of any kind despite equal rates of severity of mental distress symptoms, and attempts to access crisis services consistently result in a higher level of unproductive engagement with law enforcement.

What is the current response to the problem by the State of Indiana?

Through Indiana's FEMA funded Crisis Counseling Program in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction under the Family and Social Services Administration established the Be Well Crisis Helpline in July of 2020, (with funding continuing through June of 2021), which utilizing trained Crisis Counselors and the Indiana 211 platform, has shown to be an effective crisis stabilization program within the state's continuum of care. The Division of Mental Health and Addiction is also currently exploring strategies to ensure sustainability for the infrastructure of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline system. Additionally, the Mobile Crisis subcommittee under the Mental Health and Substance Use Taskforce of the Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana has been studying components of the crisis response system and will be making separate recommendations regarding the efficacy and cost effectiveness of mobile response and stabilization services.

What solution is the recommender proposing, and how does it affect disparate populations?

The recommendation is the provision of advocacy and support for the the creation of coordinated crisis response services for the state of Indiana, ultimately leading to programs that will increase the quality and accessibility of crisis response programs that reflect equity and social justice.

How does the solution address the disproportionality in the data?

Individuals would receive best practice, trauma informed crisis stabilization services through culturally competent collaborative programs rather than directly interacting with traditional law enforcement.

If a legislative request, cite the current relevant code and specify what change is being recommended.

N/A – No current legislation exists.

If a policy request, cite the current relevant policy and specify what change is being recommended.

N/A

If the recommendation involves an endorsement or public promotion of a specific initiative or statement, attach the document of which you are seeking the Commission's support/endorsement/promotion.

N/A